



Chautauqua County
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

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October 10, 2024

Karen Utz
WNY Regional Director
95 Perry Street, Suite 500
Buffalo, NY 14203-3030

Re: NY Forward Grant Application for the Village of Sherman

Dear Ms. Utz:

As the Economic Development Coordinator of the Chautauqua County Department of Planning and Development, I am pleased to provide my full support for the Village of Sherman's New York Forward application.

The New York Forward award would be an all-encompassing master project providing funding for building improvements, business development, placemaking strategies, gateways and green infrastructure for implementation and revitalization of downtown Sherman to attract businesses, residents, and visitors by increasing access to the trail systems, new retail spaces to diversify the downtown's current offerings, and establishing We Rock the Spectrum - Sherman anchor business.

The Village of Sherman has completed an updated Comprehensive Plan, Downtown Market Analysis, and a NYMS Building Feasibility Study that incorporated the input of all stakeholders and received support from businesses, residents, and community organizations. The Village has begun acting on adopted Pro-Housing and Complete Streets Policies.

The New York Forward award will expedite the development of rental units in mixed-use buildings and new construction of multi-family dwellings units that are in high demand. This contributes to the tax base while supplying the labor force for the shovel ready industrial complex in the nearby Town of Ripley. The Village of Sherman's location on I-86 and proximity to I-90 makes it a convenient commute to employment. The walkable and bikeable community with outdoor and recreational opportunities, will make the family-friendly neighborhood attractive to residents and visitors. All of which is part of the Village of Sherman's Pro-Housing Strategy and Complete Streets Initiative in concert with the goals of the Live CHQ and Choose CHQ campaigns attracting people to Chautauqua County for a healthy quality of life and gainful employment.

The Chautauqua County Department of Planning and Development fully supports this important project as it helps us to fulfill our mission to improve the community, economy, and quality of life in Chautauqua County. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office at (716) 363-3672.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nathan Aldrich".

Nathan Aldrich
Economic Development Coordinator
aldrichn@chqgov.com

Mark Geise, Deputy County Executive
GeiseM@chqgov.com

Paul M. Wendel, Jr., County Executive
WendelP@chqgov.com